

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning AB 2838 without my signature.

This bill, which seeks to impose a new tax on all cars registered in specified coastal counties, is nearly identical to legislation I vetoed last year. In that veto message, I stated that I support the goal of increasing funds to mitigate the effect of traffic congestion but that I cannot support the continued adding of new fees such as this without the approval of the people upon whom the fees are imposed. My position has not changed.

Throughout the year, my administration worked with members of the legislature on a proposal that would have given all counties the authority to adopt, with voter approval, modest license fee add-ons to fund environmental and traffic mitigation programs. Unfortunately, those efforts were ultimately rejected. I encourage the Legislature to reconsider this decision when they return next year.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger